

**PQ Skate Park Honored
Council President Scott Peters, First District
For the Corridor News, November 2006**

The First Council District was well represented at the recent San Diego/Imperial County chapter of the American Public Works Association (“APWA”) awards, which recognize exemplary public projects such as libraries, schools, and road, water and sewer improvements. These are examples of the many good things that are happening in the City of San Diego.

Of the 22 awards received by the City, six were for projects within the First District. The Rancho Peñasquitos Skate Park was lauded as the Park & Recreation Project of the Year for structures under \$2 million. The 20,000 foot square foot skate park features slopes and vertical surfaces that serve both novice and expert skaters, as well as secured fencing, lighting, landscaping, parking and two unisex restrooms.

This is a project of which I am particularly proud. It has been an overwhelming success both with skateboarders and the surrounding neighborhood. I hope to replicate the success of the Peñasquitos Skate Park with one in Carmel Valley.

In Black Mountain Ranch, the Camino del Sur bridge over Lusardi Creek was named the Transportation Project of the Year by the APWA. The bridge features a 316-foot span, the largest ever of its type constructed in San Diego County. It is supported by four pilings that offer minimal encroachment on the canyon floor below. Other environmentally-friendly features include bat houses to provide a habitat for native bats.

In Carmel Valley, the Via de la Valle Bikeway, which opened in late 2005, received an Honor Award for transportation projects. The mile-long Class 2 bike lane runs between San Andreas Drive and El Camino Real and includes 30,000 square feet of new pavement, curb ramps, storm drain inlets and decorative walls. It is the culmination of 17 years of work with the community in planning and permitting, and was funded by the City of San Diego, SANDAG and the Black Mountain Ranch Corporation.

Another popular project honored by the APWA is the restroom facility at Kellogg Park, adjacent to La Jolla Shores beach. Designed by a local architect at no cost, and funded by Transit Occupancy Tax (“TOT”) Coastal Improvement funds, this innovative facility includes individual toilet facilities, family and disabled-accessible restrooms, regular and disabled-accessible showers, a diaper-changing station, walkways and landscaping. This is one of the city’s most heavily-used restroom facilities, serving 2-3 million visitors each year.

Other La Jolla area projects receiving awards are the widening of La Jolla Village Drive near UCSD and Sewer Pump Station 19 in Bird Rock, which features a breathtaking view of the Pacific Ocean.

Finally, one of our local award winners from last year, the North Torrey Pines Road Bridge, over Los Peñasquitos Lagoon, received the national APWA award for 2006!

These awards are the result of many years of hard work and innovation by the City's Engineering and Capital Improvements department, under the leadership of Patti Boekamp. Patti and her staff are a credit to the City of San Diego.